

Virginia Firearm Injury Surveillance Through Emergency Rooms (FASTER) Data Dissemination Plan

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Goals

1. To provide timely, high quality firearm injury data to stakeholders working to prevent and respond to firearm injury in Virginia.
2. Increased use of timely information about trends in emergency department (ED) visits for nonfatal firearm injuries by state and local stakeholders.
3. Increased use of geographically-specific information about trends in ED visits for nonfatal firearm injuries by state and local stakeholders.

Data Products

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) plans to create four data products to disseminate firearm injury data: 1) data dashboard; 2) data brief; 3) infographic; and 4) fact sheet. See below for a detailed description of each product. Data products and intended audiences were identified by the Gun Injury and Violence Advisory Board and Collaborative Network (GIVEBACK) together with VDH.

Data Product 1: VDH Firearm Injury Data Dashboard

Primary Data Source: ED visits captured in Virginia ESSENCE syndromic surveillance data system

Other Data Sources: Inpatient hospitalizations for firearm injury (Virginia residents hospitalized in Virginia); Vital records data on deaths from firearm injury (Virginia residents)

What kind of data will be shared in this product?

The data dashboard will contain data on ED visits for firearm injury overall and by sex, age group, and race/ethnicity among Virginia residents. Users will be able to filter data by Virginia Health Region and District and choose to view visits counts or rates per 10,000 ED visits. Currently, monthly data from 2016-2021 are available to monitor trends over time. A downloadable data file will be available on the site.

The dashboard will also include inpatient hospitalization data from Virginia Health Information and mortality data from the Virginia Office of Vital Records Vital Event Statistics Program. Both data sources will include Virginia residents only; hospitalizations are those that occur in Virginia facilities. Users will be able to filter the data by intent of injury (homicide, suicide, legal intervention, unintentional, undetermined), Virginia Health Region and District, sex, age group, and race/ethnicity.

List key stakeholders who will receive this product:

Stakeholders include state and local government agencies, community-based organizations, hospitals and healthcare providers, and the public. The Firearm Injury Data Dashboard will be publicly accessible on the VDH website. Members of the Virginia GIVEBACK will be encouraged to share the dashboard widely with their organizations, partners, and the communities they serve.

How frequently will data be shared or updated?

The dashboard will be published in June 2022. ED visit and death data will be updated quarterly. Hospitalization data will be updated annually.

How will VDH receive guidance and feedback from stakeholders about the data?

GIVEBACK members will provide feedback during meetings and via email as needed. Dashboard users and other stakeholders will be invited to submit suggestions for improvement through an online feedback form.

Data Product 2: Firearm Injury Data Brief

Primary Data Source: ED visits captured in Virginia ESSENCE syndromic surveillance data system

Other Data Sources: Virginia Youth Survey, Virginia's version of the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (violence-related behavior and risk factors); Inpatient hospitalizations for firearm injury; Vital records data on firearm injury deaths. VDH will continue to explore the possibility of including data from Virginia State Police, VDH Emergency Medical Services, and the VDH Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

What kind of data will be shared in this product?

The data brief will describe the burden of firearm injury in Virginia using graphics and detailed text descriptions. Measures that may be included in the data brief are listed below. When possible, data will be stratified by age, sex, race/ethnicity, and geography.

- Virginia Youth Survey: Carried a gun at least one day in past 12 months, carried a weapon on school property in past 30 days, carried a weapon (such as a gun, knife, or club), attempted suicide, injurious suicide attempt
- ED Visits (ESSENCE): Number and rate per 10,000 ED visits of firearm injury visits between 2016-2021 (or most recent available)
- Hospitalizations: Number and rate of firearm-related inpatient hospitalizations by intent (assault, unintentional, self-harm, undetermined, legal intervention)
- Deaths (Vital Records): Annual number and rate of firearm-related deaths

The data brief will be published with accompanying talking points that highlight key findings.

List key stakeholders who will receive this product:

Stakeholders include state and local government agencies and legislators, non-academic research organizations, and governmental and community-based organizations serving people affected by firearm injury. The data brief will be publicly accessible on the VDH website. GIVEBACK members will be encouraged to share the data brief with their organizations, partners, and the communities they serve.

How frequently will data be shared or updated?

The data brief will be published in October 2022 and will be updated annually.

How will VDH receive guidance and feedback from stakeholders about the data?

GIVEBACK members will provide feedback during meetings and via email as needed. Stakeholders will be invited to submit suggestions for improvement through an online feedback form.

Data Product 3: Infographic

Primary Data Source: ED visits captured in Virginia ESSENCE syndromic surveillance data system

Other Data Sources: Inpatient hospitalizations for firearm injury; Vital records data on firearm injury deaths

What kind of data will be shared in this product?

The infographic will highlight 1-3 key messages about firearm injury in Virginia using a visually appealing format.

List key stakeholders who will receive this product:

Stakeholders include the general public and students (K-12 and college/university). VDH will share this product with local health departments and through VDH social media accounts. The infographic will be publicly accessible on the VDH website. GIVEBACK members will be encouraged to share the infographic with their organizations, partners, and the communities they serve.

How frequently will data be shared or updated?

Published in October 2022 (in conjunction with data brief), updated in Spring 2023.

How will VDH receive guidance and feedback from stakeholders about the data?

GIVEBACK members will provide feedback during meetings and via email as needed. Stakeholders will be invited to submit suggestions for improvement through an online feedback form.

Data Product 4: Fact Sheet

Primary Data Source: ED visits captured in Virginia ESSENCE syndromic surveillance data system

Other Data Sources: Inpatient hospitalizations for firearm injury; Vital records data on firearm injury deaths

What kind of data will be shared in this product?

The fact sheet will share key findings related to firearm injury ED visits, inpatient hospitalizations, and deaths in a brief text format paired with engaging visuals.

List key stakeholders who will receive this product:

Stakeholders include the general public, local and state government agencies and legislators, school administrators/teachers/staff and students. The fact sheet will be publicly accessible on the VDH website. GIVEBACK members will be encouraged to share the infographic with their organizations, partners, and the communities they serve.

How frequently will data be shared or updated?

Published in October 2022 (in conjunction with data brief), updated in Spring 2023.

How will VDH receive guidance and feedback from stakeholders about the data?

GIVEBACK members will provide feedback during meetings and via email as needed. Stakeholders will be invited to submit suggestions for improvement through an online feedback form.

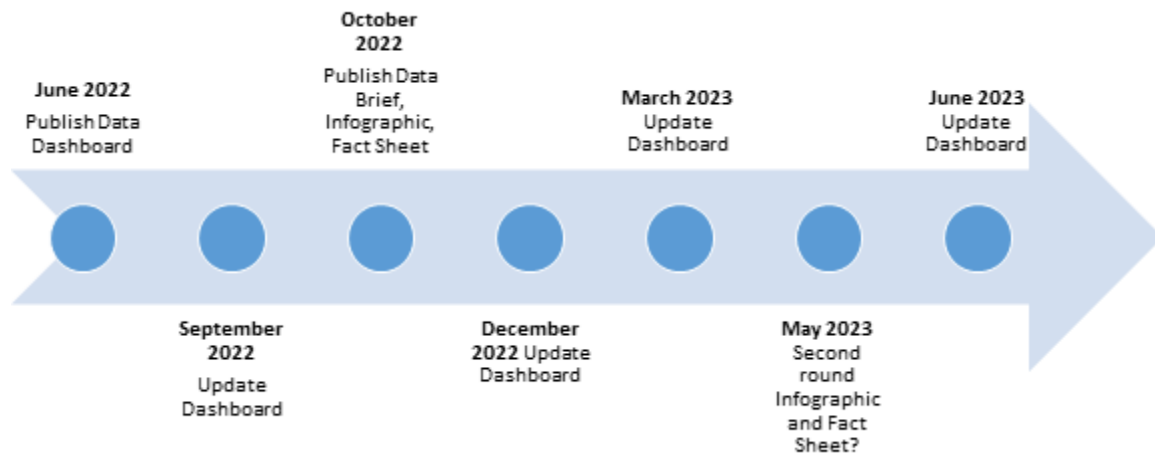
Summary Table of Data Products

Data Product	Audience	Dissemination Channel	Publish Date/ Update Frequency
Data Dashboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General public • State and local government agencies • Community-based organizations • Hospitals and healthcare providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • VDH press release • GIVEBACK Advisory Board 	June 2022/ Quarterly updates
Data Brief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State and local government representatives and legislators • Non-academic research organizations • Governmental and community-based organizations serving people affected by firearm injury • College and university staff, faculty, and administrators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email (GIVEBACK Advisory Board, local health directors, IVP Collaborative Network, others) • Website 	October 2022/ Annual updates
Infographic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General public • Students (K-12, college/university) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media • Website • Local health departments • Email (GIVEBACK Advisory Board, IVP Collaborative Network) 	October 2022/ Update Spring 2023
Fact Sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General public • State and local government representatives and legislators • School administrators, teachers, staff (K-12) • Students (K-12, college/university) • Community-based organizations serving people affected by firearm injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print • Website • GIVEBACK Advisory Board • Local health departments 	October 2022/ Update Spring 2023

Crosswalk of Data Sources and Data Products

	Dashboard	Data Brief	Infographic	Fact Sheet
ED Visits (ESSENCE)	X	X	X	X
Inpatient Hospitalizations	X	X	X	X
Deaths (Vital Records)	X	X	X	X
Virginia Youth Survey	Explore feasibility	X	X	X
Emergency Medical Services		Explore feasibility		
Deaths (Office of the Chief Medical Examiner)		Maybe		
Virginia State Police		Explore feasibility		

Timeline



Data Product	Initial Publication Date	Data Source	Date of Most Recent Data Included	Update expected dates
Dashboard	June 2022	ESSENCE (ED Visits)	May 2022	September and December 2022, March and June 2023 (quarterly)

		VHI (Hospitalizations)	Dec 2020	October 2022 (or whenever 2021 data are available)
		Vital Records (Deaths)	Dec 2021	September and December 2022, March and June 2023 (quarterly)
Data Brief	October 2022	Virginia Youth Survey	2021	No update
		ESSENCE (ED Visits)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023
		VHI (Hospitalizations)	Dec 2021	No update
		Vital Records (Deaths)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023
Infographic	October 2022	Virginia Youth Survey	2021	No update
		ESSENCE (ED Visits)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023
		VHI (Hospitalizations)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023
		Vital Records (Deaths)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023
Fact Sheet	October 2022	Virginia Youth Survey	2021	No update
		ESSENCE (ED Visits)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023
		VHI (Hospitalizations)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023
		Vital Records (Deaths)	Dec 2021	Spring 2023

Evaluation

VDH will evaluate the use of firearm injury data products using two primary strategies:

- 1) Web-based data analytics
 - a. Number of website hits to the data dashboard (Data Product #1)
 - b. Number of downloads for Data Products #1-4 (data brief, fact sheet, infographics, and public use data set from dashboard)
- 2) Survey of GIVEBACK about access and use of firearm injury data products